



Is Skyline Drive Open?

Call (540) 999-3500, Option 1, then Option 1. You can also check our Facebook page or Twitter feed:  
**Facebook:** shenandoahnps  
**Twitter:** @shenandoahnps  
Icy roads and winter weather conditions may necessitate slower speeds. The speed limit along Skyline Drive is 35 mph.

Winter Hiking

Winter is a great time to hike. The quiet and solitude are unmatched. The cold, clear days are perfect for an invigorating trip to a summit or to see a waterfall frozen in time. Be sure to dress in layers and take water, snacks, and a flashlight. Be prepared for the unexpected, and remember that cell phones don't work in most areas of the Park. The official Park app is a great hiking tool, but be sure to download offline content before coming to Shenandoah.

It's a good idea to know what time the sun sets. Darkness can sneak up quickly. Be sure someone knows your itinerary and which area of the Park you plan to visit.

Important to Know

Shenandoah National Park is one of the few parks that allow pets. This is made possible by regulations that ensure public and resource safety. Failure to follow the regulations could jeopardize Shenandoah's ability to continue to allow pets.

If you choose to bring your pet, please be sure to:

- Keep your pet on a physical leash no longer than six feet at all times.
- Bag your pet's waste and *take it with you* to a bear-proof trash can. Do not leave bagged waste along trails!
- Observe the no-pets designation on the following trails:  
*Fox Hollow Trail (mile 4.6)*  
*Stony Man Trail (mile 41.7)*  
*Limberlost Trail (mile 43)*  
*Dark Hollow Falls Trail (mile 50.4)*  
*Story of the Forest Trail (mile 51)*  
*Bearfence Rock Scramble (mile 56.4)*  
*Frazier Discovery Trail (mile 79.5)*  
*Old Rag Ridge Trail*  
*Old Rag Saddle Trail*

This list covers about 13 miles of Shenandoah's 500 miles of trails.

Help Combat Illegal Hunting

Hunting is illegal in Shenandoah National Park. If you see someone hunting, spotlighting, or transporting wildlife in the Park, call 1-800-732-0911 or 540-999-2227. You do not have to reveal your name, but if you do it will be kept confidential. Shenandoah National Park will pay a reward to anyone who gives information leading to a conviction.

Winter in Shenandoah

Winter is a great time to visit, especially if you are looking for solitude and clear views.

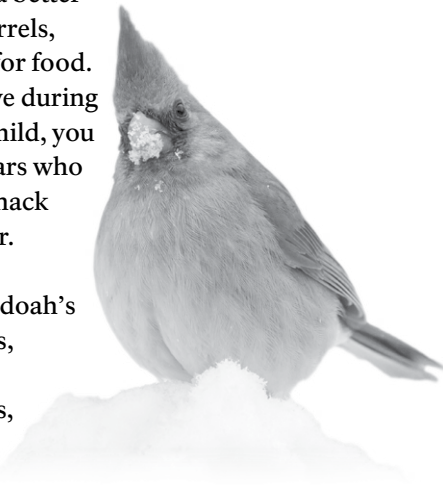
If there's snow or ice, Skyline Drive may be closed, but the Park is always open. You can still hike in to snowshoe, crosscountry ski, and enjoy the Park. Be sure to listen and watch for plows. Some picnic grounds are open; see the back for a list.

During winter, you'll have a better chance of seeing deer, squirrels, and turkeys as they forage for food. Foxes and bobcats are active during this time. If winter is very mild, you might see signs of black bears who have emerged for a quick snack before returning to slumber.

Listen and look for Shenandoah's winter bird life. Chickadees, juncos, titmice, cardinals (pictured right), nuthatches, and woodpeckers will be searching shrubs and ground plants for seeds and berries, or peeking under bark for hard-to-find insects. Snow in the mountains makes it fun and easy to see who's out and about. Look for tracks of mice, rabbits, and turkeys.

Winter sunsets are the prettiest and most dramatic. The crisp, clear air makes for sunsets that look like parfaits – sherbet oranges, raspberry pinks, blackberry purples, and blueberry indigos.

A winter visit is a magical way to experience Shenandoah!



# Winter Visitor Services | December 2019 - March 2020

### Important Safety Tips

- There are no commercial services. An electric car charging station can be found at Byrd Visitor Center. Fuel is available (credit/debit cards only) at Big Meadows, but pumps don't work during power outages. It's best to enter the Park with a full tank.
- Be prepared and self-reliant! Weather and road conditions can change rapidly and are quite different from the surrounding lowlands.
- Visitor services and cell coverage are very limited.
- Although Skyline Drive is normally open 24 hours a day, severe weather may necessitate closure at any time.
- Expect winter driving conditions. Be alert for ice on the road, especially on shaded curves. Although the speed limit is 35 mph, conditions often require lower speeds.
- Park Emergency Number: (800) 732-0911**

### Dickey Ridge (mile 4.6)

Dickey Ridge Visitor Center closed until April.  
Restrooms: Open 24 hours, 7 days a week

### Elkwallow Picnic Grounds (mile 24.1)

Picnic grounds, vault toilets, frost-proof hydrant

### Panorama (mile 31.5)

Restrooms, frost-proof hydrant

### Pinnacles Picnic Grounds (mile 35.1)

Picnic grounds, vault toilet, frost-proof hydrant

### Big Meadows (mile 51)

Byrd Visitor Center (films, exhibits, information, Park Store):  
December 6 - 29: Fri/Sat/Sun, 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
December 29 - March 12: Closed  
March 13 - March 30: Fri/Sat/Sun, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Restrooms: Open 24 hours, 7 days a week

### South River Picnic Grounds (mile 62.7)

Picnic grounds, vault toilet, frost-proof hydrant

### Dundo Picnic Grounds (mile 83.7)

Picnic grounds, vault toilet, frost-proof hydrant

### Phones Along Skyline Drive

Mile	Location	Phone Type
0.6	Front Royal Entrance Station	Emergency Phone*
4.6	Dickey Ridge Restrooms	Local/Calling Card/Collect Only Phone
24	Elkwallow Wayside	Pay Phone
31.5	Thornton Gap Entrance Station	Emergency Phone*
51	Big Meadows Campground	Emergency Phone* at Registration Station
65.5	Swift Run Gap Entrance Station	Pay Phone
79.5	Loft Mountain Wayside	Emergency Phone*
104.9	Rockfish Gap Entrance Station	Emergency Phone*

\*Emergency phones connect directly to Park emergency services.

### Park Map

